




Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Office of Medicaid
600 Washington Street
Boston, MA 02111
www.mass.gov/masshealth



Eligibility Operations Memo 05-09
July 1, 2005

TO: MassHealth Eligibility Operations Staff

FROM: Russ Kulp, Director, MassHealth Operations 

RE: **Revision to the SSI Payment Standards Desk Guide**

Introduction

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) approved a request from MassHealth to increase the income level for members who are eligible for the Frail Elders Home- and Community-Based Services Waiver from 100% of the federal poverty level (FPL) to 300% of the SSI federal benefit rate (FBR) for an individual.

SSI Payment Standards Desk Guide

A revised SSI Payment Standards desk guide is being issued. The SSI FBR for an individual has been added. A copy of the guide on card stock will be sent under separate cover.

Questions

Please direct questions about information in this memo to the MassHealth Policy Hotline through your CPU or MEC designee.

Massachusetts SSI Payment Standards Effective January 1, 2005

Living Arrangement Category

	A Full Cost of Living Expenses	B Shared Living Expenses	C Household of Another	E Licensed Rest Home	G Assisted Living
Individual					
Aged	\$707.82	\$618.26	\$490.36	\$872.00	\$1,033.00
Disabled	693.39	609.40	473.58	872.00	1,033.00
Blind	728.74	728.74	728.74	728.74	1,033.00
Member of a Couple					
Aged	\$535.36	\$535.36	\$397.57	\$872.00	\$775.00
Disabled	524.53	524.53	386.76	872.00	775.00
Blind	728.74	728.74	728.74	728.74	775.00

Note: The SSI federal benefit rate for an individual is \$579.00.

Note: The personal needs allowance in licensed rest homes is \$60. — The personal needs allowance in nursing facilities and chronic disease hospitals is \$65.

RSDI Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLA)

Date	Percentage of Increase	Date	Percentage of Increase	Date	Percentage of Increase
July 1, 1977	5.9%	January 1, 1987	1.3%	January 1, 1996	2.6%
July 1, 1978	6.5%	January 1, 1988	4.2%	January 1, 1997	2.9%
July 1, 1979	9.9%	January 1, 1989	4.0%	January 1, 1998	2.1%
July 1, 1980	14.3%	January 1, 1990	4.7%	January 1, 1999	1.3%
July 1, 1981	11.2%	January 1, 1991	5.4%	January 1, 2000	2.5%
July 1, 1982	7.4%	January 1, 1992	3.7%	January 1, 2001	3.5%
January 1, 1984	3.5%	January 1, 1993	3.0%	January 1, 2002	2.6%
January 1, 1985	3.5%	January 1, 1994	2.6%	January 1, 2003	1.4%
January 1, 1986	3.1%	January 1, 1995	2.8%	January 1, 2004	2.1%
				January 1, 2005	2.7%